

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2005
Torrance, California

MEMBERS

Scott Beylik
Russell Hall
Jim Russell
Gene Etheridge
Jim Eldon
Doug Hayden
Joan Taramasso
Harry Brown-Hiegel
Greta Dunlap
Howell Tumlin
Mary Lou Weiss
Karol Jo Kappel

ALTERNATES MEMBERS

Fred Ellrott, Voting
Mary Hillebrecht
Kurt Floren, Voting
Amelia Saltsman

INTERESTED PARTIES

Dale Whitney, Harbor Area FM
Jim Murez, Vencie CFM
Karen Wetzel-Shott, Ventura CFM

CDFA

Rick Jensen
Janice Price
Susan Shelton

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL

Gene Etheridge called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Janice Price called the roll and a quorum was established.

A. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Introductions were made. New member, Amelia Saltsman, introduced herself.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF MARCH 14, 2005 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Mary Lou Weiss moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Greta Dunlap seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Jim Russell moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Jim Eldon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 4: CDFA REPORTS – JANICE PRICE

A. CFM REMITTANCE FEE AND 2004 DELINQUENT MARKET REPORTS

Janice Price stated that there is roughly \$13,000 owed in late fees since the inception of the \$100 late penalty fee. She also explained that the agricultural

commissioners' offices are being asked to not renew farmers' market certificates for markets that are past due.

B. CDFA BUDGET REPORTS: FEBRUARY AND MARCH, FISCAL YEAR 2004/05

Janice Price provided each committee member with a copy of the budget reports for February and March 2005. She also handed out a CFM Program Spending Status Report for each month. This report was created to show the important budget numbers in an easy to understand format, as requested by the committee at their last meeting.

The committee requested to see a prior year comparison. It was discussed that until the personal services charges are applied to the 2003/04 fiscal year the comparison would not be accurate. Rick Jensen stated that we would provide a comparison once all charges are shown.

C. CDFA TASK REPORT

Janice Price reviewed the CDFA Task Report for January through March of 2005. During this time she conducted two investigations as a result of two formal complaints filed. This required inspections at four markets and five production sites. She also held training classes in Sonoma and Santa Clara counties. Additionally, one other formal complaint was filed for a producer selling products not of his own production. It was referred to a county for further investigation.

D. PROPOSED REGULATION UPDATE

Janice Price gave an update on current and pending regulation. As a result of Assembly Bill 1726 a \$100 late penalty fee regulation was filed with the Secretary of State on March 7, 2005 and became effective April 6, 2005. The proposed regulation that defines sprouts, requires a market to have a valid certificate while in operation, and requires organic registrants to post their registration and certification was filed with the Office of Administrative Law. It is anticipated that the regulation should be approved and become effective in the beginning of July.

ITEM 5: AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

The CACASA Direct Marketing Subcommittee has scheduled a meeting with the CACASA Coordination Subcommittee for June 6, 2005 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The meeting will take place at the CDFA conference room located at 560 J Street, 3rd floor, Suite 395 in Sacramento.

Kurt Floren announced that CACASA will be meeting on May 16, 2005 in Redding.

ITEM 6: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – GENE ETHERIDGE

Gene Etheridge thanked Howell Tumlin for all his work on the follow up of Assembly Bill 826.

ITEM 7: COMMITTEE REPORTS/BUSINESS

A. LONG RANGE PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE – JANE ALLEN, CHAIR

It was announced that Jane Allen resigned from the CFMAC and as the chair of the Long Range Planning Subcommittee. It was discussed that later in the meeting a chair for the Long Range Planning Subcommittee would be appointed to replace Jane.

B. FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE – SCOTT BEYLIK, CHAIR

The Finance Subcommittee met via teleconference on May 2, 2005 to discuss alternative ideas for handling the cost of the program.

i. CFMAC Approval of CDFA 2005/2006 Budget

The budget for the 2005/06 fiscal year was presented using the same numbers as the 2004/05 budget, except adding \$6,680 in revenue for late penalty fees due. It also adjusted the proposed personnel services expenditures to reflect the increase in revenue from the penalties. The total budget proposed was \$178,307.

Scott Beylik explained that CDFA will give the program until 2006/07 to become self-sufficient. At that time cuts will be made to the Program if revenue does not match or exceed costs.

MOTION: Scott Beylik moved to approve the budget as submitted. Doug Hayden seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ii. Proposed CFM Fee Increase

The need for a CFM fee increase was discussed. Scott stated that the Finance Subcommittee will lay out a plan of how the program could be changed if there is no fee increase by the next budget year.

C. MARKET STANDARDS/MANAGER CERTIFICATION SUBCOMMITTEE –
HOWELL TUMLIN, CHAIR

Howell Tumlin reported that the subcommittee met on May 5, 2005. A handout of the meeting's minutes was given to each committee member. The subcommittee will next meet on May 26, 2005.

D. ENFORCEMENT/MATRIX SUBCOMMITTEE – SCOTT HUDSON, CHAIR

No report at this time.

E. NON-CERTIFIABLE AG. PRODUCTS SUBCOMMITTEE – JIM RUSSELL,
CHAIR

Jim Russell announced that this subcommittee would be meeting on June 7, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. to discuss and rewrite the verbiage of processed agricultural products, Sections 1392.2 and 1392.4

F. POLICY AND PROCEDURES SUBCOMMITTEE – HOWELL TUMLIN, CHAIR

Howell Tumlin reported that the subcommittee met on May 3, 2005. It was decided that all future meetings would be held on Mondays at 9:00 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for May 23, 2005.

G. APPOINTMENT OF CFMAC SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS – JANICE PRICE

MOTION: Jim Russell moved that Greta Dunlap be appointed chair of the Long Range Planning Subcommittee. Karol Jo Kappel seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Jim Russell moved that Amelia Saltsman be added to the Non-Certifiable Agricultural Products Subcommittee. Karol Jo Kappel seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 8: NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION ONLY

There was not any new business to discuss.

ITEM 9: MEMBER ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION – GENE ETHERIDGE

Gail Hayden will be attending the next CFMAC meeting to report on the ten-year vision statement that Secretary A.G. Kawamura had requested from the CFMAC.

ITEM 10: NEXT MEETING

The next meeting has been scheduled for July 11, 2005 in Sacramento, CA.

ITEM 11: ADJOURNMENT

As there was no other business to discuss, the Committee adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janice Price, Supervisor
Certified Farmers' Market Program
Inspection and Compliance Branch